



Bill Purcell, Mayor

Mayor's Office of Neighborhoods

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Codes “Get - R - Done” List

The Metropolitan Codes Department is ready to make 2006 one of the best years this community has seen. Under the leadership of Director Terry Cobb, this list includes some new and exciting projects that are beneficial to the citizens of Davidson County with the expected completion dates.

Codes Inspector Cell phone Project expected completion date 4/30/06. This project was recommended during a performance audit. The project was put on hold by Metro Finance pending the development of a Metro-wide cell phone policy. Codes have been recommended to implement the project after they move to new offices located in the Metro Office building (February 2006). Saving from a new land-based telephone system in the new building will allow Codes to cover the cost of this project through their current operating budget. This project will allow inspectors to have adequate communications with the office as well as customers.

Mainframe Replacement Project (phase 1) expected completion date 6/30/2006. This project, also known as The Kiva Project will offer Codes many applications to the mainframe of its computer system. The Codes Department is the largest single user of the old mainframe. This first phase will give them a new Contactor Database, a Permits and Inspections module and a Violations Tracking / Request for Service (RFS) module. The new RFS module is a significant upgrade over the current system.

Kiva Net Project (phase 2) expected completion date 12/31/06 This phase will bring the entire land information system (LIS) with the internet. This will allow citizens to apply for permits, renew or apply for contractors licenses, pay re-inspection fees, request Use of Occupancy certificates, report code violations and view an inspection status on-line. This will allow citizens to have access to their Codes concerns at the tip of their finger tips.

Kiva Wireless Project (phase 3) expected completion date 6/30/07 This project will link remote, wireless and handheld computers to the Kiva System. Handheld computers will be carried by Codes Field Inspectors. This phase will allow information to be entered immediately into the system for real-time communication of inspections and re-inspection results.

Document Imaging / Backfile Conversion Project expected completion date 6/30/07 The Codes Department maintains hard copy files on some 200,000 parcels of property within the jurisdiction of the Metropolitan Government. These files are estimated to contain more than five million pages of documents. This project allow Codes to scan, index and store these files electronically. As a result, citizens will be able to view files and documents on-line.



Issue 10

Metropolitan Government of Nashville and Davidson County

ON Nashville!

February 2006

Healthy Nashville 2010

Healthy Nashville 2010 is a process to continually improve health status and quality of life for Nashville as a community.

Established by Mayor Bill Purcell in 2003, Healthy Nashville 2010 uses an approach called "Mobilizing for Action through Planning and Partnerships" or MAPP. The Healthy Nashville 2010 (MAPP) process will build upon previous experiences and current collaborations. Nashville has a long history of community improvement successes and partnerships.

Healthy Nashville 2010 is guided by the Healthy Nashville Leadership Council. The Mayor makes appointments to the Council through Executive Order. The Council convened in February 2003. The Council is composed of diverse community members with a common goal of improving health in Nashville. Action Teams have been created to focus on specific assessments and action plans.

Healthy Nashville 2010 will also allow Nashville to pursue strategic national goals established through Healthy People 2010. By working together, Nashville can become a healthier city and contribute to the nation's goals as well.

In 2005, the Leadership Council initiated Healthy Nashville STEPS. This program encourages Nashvillians to “get moving” through more exercise including adding more “steps” and decreasing caloric intake by 100 per day. This program has been selected by the US Conference of Mayors as a model program for the United States.

For additional information, or to get involved with Healthy Nashville 2010, please contact Judy Dias at 615-340-5641.

Did You Know?

Metro Beautification will provide gloves, garbage bags, and trash pickup for neighborhood cleanups. To find out how to schedule your group or club for an official Keep Nashville Beautiful clean-up, call 862-8418.

New Energy for Nashville's Community Gardens

Have you ever wanted a community garden in your neighborhood but just didn't know where to start? Maybe your neighborhood has lost its green thumb and the community garden is a overgrown tangle? Whatever the case, Metro Parks has brought new energy to Community Gardens in Nashville and is ready to help. In October 2005, a dynamic group of individuals from several Metro agencies, local non-profits, businesses, and neighborhoods formed the Nashville Community Garden Steering Committee. This group is working to provide Nashville's residents with resources on starting and maintaining a garden, liability issues, garden rules and regulations, seed sources, free volunteer labor, and more!

Nashville is already home to several successful community gardens in the Edgehill, Sylvan Park, and Preston Taylor Homes communities. EarthMatters Tennessee involves youth in urban composting activities near Sevier Park. And Metro Parks currently teaches residents about organic vegetable and flower gardening at demonstration gardens in Warner and Shelby Parks.

Residents interested in learning more about how to organize their neighbors into community gardeners should attend the free training and informational session being held at the Scarritt-Bennett Center on Saturday, February 11, from 8:30 – 1:00 p.m.. This workshop is free and includes lunch. For more information or to register call (615) 594-2248.

By Vera Vollbrecht - Metro Parks

Dear Neighbors,

We are well into Mayor Bill Purcell's second term and as you know, he has decided not to seek a 3rd term. So, of course, it is with mixed emotions that I write this letter.

Reflecting back on the past year, we have made great strides. Some of the developments that enhanced our quality of life include:

- the Police Department opened its Central Police Precinct in a new, highly visible location on Broadway at the Gaylord Entertainment Center
- the Police Department changed hiring practices this year to boost the number of officers on Nashville's streets. Under the new practice officers are hired when available instead of waiting until a recruit class can be sent to the training academy. In 2005, 66 new officers joined the police ranks
- the Parks Department opened the water playground in Watkins Park, a new trail system along the rim of the Cumberland Plateau at Beaman Park and added another dog park in Edwin Warner Park
- Metro Water Services broke ground this year on the Central Odor Control and Biosolids projects (we will all be happy to "smell" the progress made when the project is completed!). The odor control project is scheduled for completion in the summer of 2006. The biosolids project completion is slated for the summer of 2008
- the Public Works Department Waste Management Division shifted gears this year rolling out a new automated trash collection system all across Davidson County, and Metro's Curby program added plastics to the materials for recycling

While we celebrate the tremendous progress we have made and feel great pride in the fact that we have increased the number of organized neighborhood groups/associations from 200 to well over 600, we recognize there is still much more work to be done. It is my hope that in the next 18 months, we can continue the work that we've started, ensuring our neighborhoods have the knowledge and skills necessary to continue to make an impact in the places we live, work, and play.

In this issue of *ON Nashville*, you will read articles from our Metro Departments that highlight the things to be accomplished within the remainder of Mayor Purcell's term (to access the complete list go to http://www.metrosbo.com/project_tracking/index.asp). We don't know what the future holds or who our next Mayor will be, but we can be certain that neighborhoods have the structure and the tools to continue to thrive.

On a celebratory note, Nashville enters 2006 looking toward the 200th anniversary of the city's incorporation and the election of its first mayor and council. The bicentennial of the city will provide an opportunity for Nashvillians to look back at its beginnings, but also celebrate its achievements that will continue in the year ahead.

Sincerely,



Michelle Cummings Steele
Director

NEIGHBORHOOD TRAINING INSTITUTE
SPRING SEMESTER
STARTING SOON!

Watch your mail and
www.nashville.gov/neighborhoods for details



Homeland Security District 5 Seeks Victim Volunteers

Greater Nashville Homeland Security District 5 is recruiting volunteers for the *Emergency Preparedness Challenge* exercise to be held on April 7th and 8th, 2006. This is a full-scale emergency preparedness exercise being held in Davidson, Williamson, Wilson and Sumner counties and will involve first responders and government agencies at the local, state and federal levels.

Approximately 2,500 volunteers are needed to help evaluate the district's disaster response plans by acting as sick, injured or deceased victims. Volunteers can also serve as volunteer coordinators by assisting in the management of the volunteer victims.

The *Emergency Preparedness Challenge* is one of the nation's largest local disaster response exercises that will allow emergency teams, law enforcement agencies and 14 area hospitals to evaluate the district's plans and strategies for responding to catastrophic emergency events. The exercise will examine the district's strategy for responding to mass casualties, search and rescue for victims, triage and transportation preparation of survivors, hospital processing and treatment, processing of deceased victims and other disaster management efforts.

Citizens can participate in a volunteer victim role, and learn first-hand how disaster management teams respond to emergencies affecting their communities. Also, the exercise will allow citizens to gain a broader knowledge of the critical role volunteers play in real large-scale community disasters and how to better prepare themselves.

Exercise volunteers must be at least 11 years of age, participate in a volunteer safety briefing and submit a signed volunteer waiver. There are several different locations where volunteers can participate in, including inside and outside locations.

To register or for more information, visit the exercise website at www.HSD5exercise.org or you may contact Heidi Jordan, the exercise coordinator, at exercise@nashville.gov, or 862-8530.

What is Pandemic Influenza (Flu) ???

Pandemic influenza virus is a global or worldwide virus. It is a much more serious flu virus than we see in a typical flu season. Pandemic flu might come as avian flu or bird flu or as a flu not known about yet. Influenza viruses cause infections of the respiratory tract (breathing tubes and lungs). In some persons, complications can be severe. These could include pneumonia and even death.

What is the best way to protect myself from seasonal or pandemic flu?

- Get a seasonal flu shot
- Stay home when you are sick
- Avoid close contact with people who are ill
- Cover your mouth or nose with a tissue when you cough or sneeze
- Wash your hands often with soap and warm water (before handling or eating food, after using the toilet, after shaking hands, after sneezing or wiping your nose, whenever hands are dirty)
- Use an alcohol based hand wash if water is not available for hand washing
- Avoid touching your hands, nose or mouth

For more information phone
Metro Public Health Department
at 615-340-5632.



EARTH DAY 2006
CENTENNIAL PARK
APRIL 22
11AM—7PM

A new Recycle Convenience Center is now open on Omohundro Drive to serve residents in the Donelson, Hermitage and East Davidson County area.

Metro Public Works opened its new Omohundro Convenience Center on January 2. The center is located at 1019 Omohundro Drive, just off Lebanon Pike near the Fessler's Lane intersection.

Like Metro's East Convenience Center off Trinity Lane, the new Omohundro Center accepts residential recycling and trash, such as household waste, scrap metal, furniture and appliances, tires, mattresses and box springs. No business trash or waste is accepted at either center, and vehicles with commercial license plates are not allowed to enter. Only Davidson County residents are permitted to use Metro facilities, and are allowed two visits per day.

Residents can dispose of all recycling and up to 3 bulk items for free. Minimal fees apply for other items, and there are limits on the amount of certain items (such as tires and mattress/box spring sets).

The Anderson Lane Convenience Center in the Rivergate/Madison area is temporarily closed for major improvements including extensive landscaping, new fencing and paved driveways. The center is expected to re-open in late Spring 2006.

For a complete list of items accepted at Metro Recycle Convenience Centers, operating hours and fees, residents should call 880-1000 or visit our website at www.nashville.gov/recycle.